

# Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

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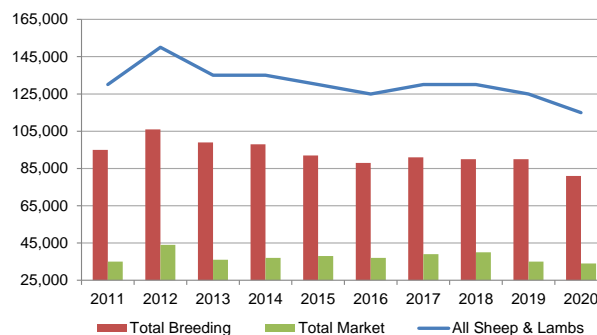
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*January 31, 2020*

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**All sheep and lambs** inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2020, totaled 115,000 head, down 8 percent from 2019, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 81,000 head, decreased 10 percent from a year ago. Compared with last year, **market sheep and lambs** decreased 3 percent to 34,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2019 totaled 90,000 head. **Wool** production for the State was 620,000 pounds, down 3 percent from last year.

### Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



## All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2019 and 2020

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs .....	125.0	115.0	92	5,230.0	5,200.0	99
Total breeding sheep .....	90.0	81.0	90	3,820.0	3,810.0	100
Ewes .....	74.0	65.0	88	3,000.0	2,980.0	99
Rams .....	4.0	4.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs .....	12.0	12.0	100	650.0	660.0	102
Total market .....	35.0	34.0	97	1,410.0	1,390.0	99

### Lamb Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2018 and 2019

	Minnesota			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop .....	90.0	90.0	100	3,235.0	3,230.0	100

### Wool Production, Price and Value – Minnesota and United States: 2018 and 2019

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	102.0	98.0	96	3,372.0	3,320.0	98
Weight per fleece .....(pounds)	6.3	6.3	100	7.2	7.2	100
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	640	620	97	24,400	24,010	98
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.67	0.50	75	1.75	1.89	108
Value <sup>1</sup> .....(1,000 dollars)	429	310	72	42,772	45,364	106

<sup>1</sup> Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

## United States Sheep and Lambs

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2020, totaled 5.20 million head, down 1 percent from 2019. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.81 million head on January 1, 2020, decreased slightly from 3.82 million head on January 1, 2019. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.98 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2020, totaled 1.39 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2019. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2019 lamb crop of 3.23 million head was down slightly from 2018. The 2019 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2019, up 1 percent from 2018.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2019 was 24.0 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2018. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.32 million head, down 2 percent from 2018. The average price paid for wool sold in 2019 was \$1.89 per pound for a total value of 45.4 million dollars, up 6 percent from 42.8 million dollars in 2018.

Sheep death loss during 2019 totaled 219 thousand head, up 1 percent from 2018. Lamb death loss was unchanged from last year at 388 thousand head.

**All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States:  
January 1**

